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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

T. SAKURAI et al

Serial No. 09/179,188

Group Art Unit: 1651

Filed: October 27, 1998

Examiner: D. Naff

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR THE RECOVERY OF NUCLEIC ACIDS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 17, 2001

Sir:

Further to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed July 17, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-12 and 16-19, without prejudice or disclaimer, and add new claims 20-32, as follows.

20. (New) A method for recovering nucleic acids from a nucleic acid-bearing material, which comprises:
release nucleic acids from
~~a step for destroying a nucleic acid-bearing material to~~
~~release the nucleic acids therefrom in~~ an aqueous solution;
containing the nucleic acids